

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus ~~for receiving related information about contents~~, comprising:

~~transmission means for transmitting user personal information to an external device that provides related information about contents included in broadcast information received by the communication apparatus, in order to request a user registration;~~

detection means for detecting whether or not [[said]] externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium, ~~when an access request is made to said external device;~~

transmission means for transmitting request information that requests [[said]] related information about [[the]] contents included in received broadcast information, for transmitting available/unavailable request information that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not [[said]] an external device offers a service providing said related information about the contents, if said detection means detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium, [[and]] the available/unavailable request information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information, for receiving said available/unavailable information in a reply to a transmission of said available/unavailable request information, and for transmitting said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said detection means detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium, wherein

said detection means stores said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said detection means detects that said externally input user personal

~~information is not stored in said storage medium; and notification means for notifying information concerning the service, providing said related information about the contents, offered by said external device.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said further comprising:

notification means ~~notifies~~ for notifying whether or not said external device offers the service providing said related information about the contents, based on said available/unavailable information.

3. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising:

display means for displaying advertisement information to promote said user registration in accordance with ~~a reply to~~ said available/unavailable ~~request~~ information.

4. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein a URL showing advertisement information to promote said user registration is included in ~~a reply to~~ said available/unavailable ~~request~~ information.

5. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said externally input user personal information includes at least name information corresponding to a name of said communication apparatus.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A communication method implemented in a communication apparatus ~~for receiving related information about contents, the communication method~~ comprising:

~~transmitting user personal information to an external device that provides related information about contents included in the broadcast information received by the communication apparatus, in order to request a user registration;~~

detecting whether or not ~~[[said]]~~ externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium, ~~when an access request is made to said external device;~~

transmitting available/unavailable request information that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not ~~[[said]]~~ an external device offers a service providing ~~[[said]]~~ related information about ~~[[the]]~~ contents included in received broadcast information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting, the available/unavailable request information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information;

receiving said available/unavailable information, showing whether or not said external device offers said service, in a reply to the transmitting said available/unavailable request information;

transmitting, with the communication apparatus, said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting;

storing said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting; and

transmitting request information that requests said related information about the contents; ~~and notifying information concerning a service, providing said related information about the contents, offered by said external device.~~

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium including a communication program ~~for receiving related information about contents~~, wherein the communication program, when executed by a computer, makes the computer perform a method comprising:

~~transmitting user personal information to an external device that provides related information about contents included in the broadcast information received by the computer, in order to request a user registration;~~

detecting whether or not ~~[[said]]~~ externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium, ~~when an access request is made to said external device;~~

transmitting available/unavailable request information that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not ~~[[said]]~~ an external device offers a service providing ~~[[said]]~~ related information about ~~[[the]]~~ contents included in received broadcast information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting, the available/unavailable information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information;

receiving said available/unavailable information, showing whether or not said external device offers said service, in a reply to the transmitting said available/unavailable request information, ~~if said user personal information is not detected in said storage medium in said detecting;~~

transmitting said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting;

storing said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said externally input user personal information was not detected in said storage medium in said detecting; and

transmitting request information that requests said related information about the contents; ~~and notifying information concerning said service providing said related information about the contents by said external device.~~

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The communication method according to Claim 9, further comprising:

displaying advertisement information to promote said user registration in accordance with ~~a reply to~~ said available/unavailable ~~request~~ information.

15. (Currently Amended) The communication method according to Claim 9, wherein a URL showing advertisement information to promote said user registration is included in ~~a reply to~~ said available/unavailable ~~request~~ information.

16. (Currently Amended) The communication method according to Claim 9, wherein said externally input user personal information includes at least name information corresponding to a name of said communication apparatus.

17. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:

~~a network interface configured to transmit user personal information to an external device that provides related information about contents included in broadcast information received by the communication apparatus, in order to request a user registration;~~

a processing unit configured to detect whether or not [[said]] externally input user personal information has been stored in a storage medium; and ~~when an access request is made to said external device, the~~

a network interface being further configured to transmit available/unavailable request information that requests available/unavailable information showing whether or not [[said]] an external device offers a service providing [[said]] related information about [[the]] contents included in received broadcast information, if said externally input user personal information has not been stored in said storage medium, the available/unavailable request information identifying a broadcast station that broadcast the received broadcast information, and to receive said available/unavailable information, showing whether or not said external device offers said service, in a reply to a transmission of said available/unavailable request information, to transmit said externally input user personal information to the external device to request a user registration in accordance with said available/unavailable information, if said processing unit detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium, and if said processing unit detects that user personal information is not stored in said storage medium, the network interface being further configured to transmit request information that requests said related information about the contents, wherein

the processing unit stores said externally input user personal information in said storage medium, if said processing unit detects that said externally input user personal information is not stored in said storage medium; and a notification unit configured to notify

~~information concerning the service, providing said related information about the contents,
offered by said external device.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1,
~~further comprising: storage wherein the detection means for storing stores~~ said externally
input user personal information in said storage medium upon a reception of registration
completion information from said external device in response to the user registration.

19. (New) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the
transmission means transmits the request information, if the detection means detects that the
externally input user personal information has been stored in the storage medium.

20. (New) The communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the request
information identifies the broadcast station.